

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 5667 SENT SECSTATE INFO LISBON CONAKRY
DAKAR LIBREVILLE LUANDA LOURENCO MARQUES DATED DEC 3.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN,PFOR, PO, AO, MZ

SUBJ: SPECIAL MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF 24 TO HEAR PORTUGUESE
MINISTER SANTOS

1. FOLLOWING MORNING GA PLENARY ADDRESS ON PORTUGUESE DECOLONIZATION
(SEPTEL), PORTUGUESE MINISTER OF INTERTERRITORIAL COORDINATION
ANTONIA DE ALMEIDA SANTOS WAS WELCOMED AT SPECIAL MEETING OF
COMMITTEE OF 24 AFTERNOON DEC 3. SANTOS WAS RECEIVED WITH GREAT
CORDIALITY BY TANZANIAN AMB SALIM (CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE OF 24)
AND WAS WARMLY RECEIVED BY ALL MEMBERS AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES
OF PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES' NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

2. SANTOS REITERATED THAT ESSENCE OF WHAT PORTUGAL NOW HAD TO
SAY ON DECOLONIZATION WAS CONTAINED IN HIS MORNING ADDRESS. HE
EXTRAVANGANTLY PRAISED GREAT DECOLONIZATION WORK OF COMMITTEE
OF 24, EXPECIALLY ON PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES. HE EXPRESSED SINCERE
THANKS OF GOP FOR COMMITTEE OF 24'S PAST EFFORTS AND

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APPRECIATION FOR COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION THAT UN SANCTIONS

AGAINST PORTUGAL BE LIFTED. MINISTER SUGGESTED THAT INDEPENDENCE FOR PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES COULD BE ACHIEVED BY MID-1975 AND MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE IN AUGUST. HOWEVER, HE EMPHASIZED, LONGER TERM ECONOMIC PROBLEM IN MOZAMBIQUE AND EXTREME POVERTY CAPE VERDES. SANTOS CONCLUDED BY SAYING HE WOULD TAKE QUESTIONS.

3. IN NAME OF OAU, AMB OUATTARA SAID A.M. SPEECH QUITE WELL ANSWERED DECOLONIZATIONS QUESTIONS. HE SAID OAU WILL CAREFULLY STUDY MORNING STATEMENT AND AFTERNOON DISCUSSION WITH SANTOS AND WILL DRAW NECESSARY CONCLUSIONS. HE SAID OAU DRAWS COMFORT FROM NEW PATH BEING FOLLOWED BY GOP AND PREDICTED THAT FRUITFUL COOPERATION BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND INDEPENDENT AFRICA WILL FLOW THEREFROM.

4. FNLA REPRESENTATIVES TULA PRAISED SATISFACTORY EVOLUTION OF CONTACTS BETWEEN GOP AND ANGOLAN PEOPLE. HE REPORTED FNLA HAD STRICTLY OBSERVED CEASEFIRE IN SPITE OF PROVOCATIONS BY HANDFUL OF (UNNAMED) REACTIONARIES. TULA CLAIMED A FEW REACTIONARIES STILL AT WORK IN LUANDA COMMITTING MURDER AND PROBOKAING BLACKS AND WHITES. FNLA WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ITS ARMED FORCES DEPLOYED IN LUANDA TO DEFEND WHITES AND BLACKS AND TO ASSIST IN ORDERLY TRANSFER OF POWER. FNLA WANTS LISBON'S AID IN MAINTAINING ORDER AND PEACE. TULA SAID FAVORABLE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IS NOW IN VIEW AND HE ADDED THAT ANGOLAN PEOPLE HAVE NO FEELING OF HATRED OR VENGEANCE AGAINST PORTUGUESE PEOPLE. NO OTHER ANGOLAN REPRESENTATIVE SPOKE AT MEETING.

5. GUINEA-BISSAU PERMREP SEMEDO CONGRATULATED SANTOS FOR HIS MORNING SPEECH AND PRAISED PORTUGAL'S EFFORTS THUS FAR. HE NOTED PORTUGAL'S DECLARATION ON CAPE VERDES AND EMPHASIZED GUINEA-BISSAU'S FIRM DESIRE TO FIND FELICITOUS SOLUTION FOR CAPE VERDES PROBLEM ON A SOUND BASIS. HE NOTED PAIGC, WHEN IT WAS FOUNDED IN 1956, HAD IDENTIFIED BASIC UNITY OF PEOPLES OF GUINEA-BISSAU AND CAPE VERDES. THIS UNION SHOULD NOW BE REALIZED WITHOUT ANY OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

6. KHAN OF FRELIMO PAID HIGHLY EMOTIONAL TRIBUTE TO OLD FRIEND AND "CAMRADE IN STRUGGLE" SANTOS. HE PRAISED SANTOS FOR HAVING SEEN NEED TWO DECADES AGO FOR DEMOCRACY AND DECOLONIZATION IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PORTUGUESE EMPIRE. KHAN AGREED WITH POINTS MADE IN MORNING SPEECH BUT SAID CAPE VERDES SOLUTION DID NOT SOUND "QUITE RIGHT". HE SAID CAPE VERDES SHOULD ACHIEVE SELF-DETERMINATION ONLY THROUGH PAIGC, WITH NO OTHER INTERMEDIARY.

7. CONGRATULATORY STATEMENTS TO SANTOS WERE GIVEN BY REPRESENTATIVES OF MALI, INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHILE.

8. SANTOS EXPRESSED FEELINGS OF EMBARRASSMENT AND GREAT EMOTION IN ACCEPTING TRIBUTES FROM ENTIRE COMMITTEE AND GAVE SPECIFIC STATEMENTS OF APPRECIATION TO EACH SPEAKER.

9. IN SUMMATION, SALIM SAID COMMITTEE OF 24 AHD CLOSELY FOLLOWED GOP ACTIONSSINCE APRIL AND ITS RECENT STATEMENTS IN UN, CHARACTERIZING MORNING STATEMENT AS "IMPRESSIVE." HE EXPRESSED COMMITTEE'S GENERAL FEELING OF APPRECIATION FOR CONCRETE STEPS ALREADY TAKEN AND SAID HE CONFIDENT THAT EXPEDITIONS CONCLUSION OF PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM NOT FAR OFF. SALIM ASSERTED CONFRONTATION WITH PORTUGAL HAS BEEN REPLACED BY ERA OF COOPERATION. IN FINAL STATEMENT, SALIM SUGGESTED COMMITTEE OF 24 VISITS TO PORTUGAL AND ITS TERRITORIES IN COMING YEAR TO OBSERVE DECOLONIZATION ACTIVITIES.
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